

THE CHRONICLE.

R. H. YANCEY, Editor.

Clarksville, Tenn., May 10, 1884.

TERMS: \$2.00 IN ADVANCE.

THE CALL FOR THE STATE DEMOCRATIC CONVENTION.

To the Democracy of Tennessee:

By direction of the State Democratic Executive Committee, you are hereby notified to assemble in convention, at the capital in Nashville, on Wednesday, June 15, 1884, at 10 o'clock a. m., for the following purpose, to wit:

To nominate a candidate for Governor;

To nominate three candidates for Railroad Commissioners; to appoint delegates and alternates to the National Democratic Convention to be held at Chicago, Ill., July 9, 1884, for the State at large, and two for each Congressional district, and to select one for each Congressional district, and to transmit such other business as may be necessary.

To this end, the Chairman of the County Conventions throughout the State are hereby notified to convene their respective committees, and call conventions of the Democracy of their counties, irrespective of past differences, to appoint delegates to the said convention to be held on the 15th day of June.

J. F. HILLMAN, Secy.
Nashville, April 15, 1884.

COUNTY DEMOCRATIC CONVENTION.

To the Democrats of Montgomery County:

You are hereby notified to assemble in Convention, at the Court House in Clarksville, on Saturday, May 11, 1884, at 10 o'clock a. m., for the purpose of appointing delegates to the State Convention which meets at Nashville on the 15th of June.

All Democrats throughout the county, irrespective of past differences, are requested to assemble at their voting places in their respective Districts, at 10 o'clock, p. m., Saturday, May 11th, and appoint delegates to the County Convention.

By order of the Democratic Executive Committee.

CHAS. W. TAYLOR, Chairman.
May 5, 1884.

OWING to the continued illness of Mr. R. H. Yancey, the editor of the editorial department of the paper this week, and to him we return our sincere thanks.

THE CROP OF CANDIDATES.

While the fields and meadows are growing verdant with the promise of bounteous crops in autumn, the political field also shows a rich promise of productiveness as to its peculiar crop for the summer and fall—its crop of Presidential candidates. Alas! that so many seedlings of this sort at present luxuriate and vigorous should be destined to wither and blight within a little month or two. The signs of this political spring time are becoming more conspicuous every day; candidates who have long been declaring that they are no candidates and that they will under no circumstances consent, are now slowly relenting, following the example of the lady fair but frail, who "sweating and weeping would consent—consent."

Complacent political leaders are suddenly, of course to their astonishment, finding themselves the subjects of biographical literature of the eulogistic school, while the omissions in works of this class are supplied by biographers of quite another school. Bob Lincoln suddenly remembers that he is the son of Abraham the first, and that hereditary succession is not without a precedent in the persons of the Adams family.

In the Democratic acreage the crops are equally abundant and each has its special cultivators who think that the only possible chance of successful harvest depends upon the exclusive culture of its favorite crop. Indeed, so striking is this feature that many democratic husbandmen treat all but their favorites as weeds to be ruthlessly exterminated—a poor prospect for the general harvest.

To drop the metaphor and be in earnest, this devotion to individual leaders so far from representing an interest to the interests of the party is showing itself as a very ugly feature in the councils of Democracy. The supporters of the several politicians are busier in blocking off competing candidates than in advocating the claims of their own favorites, so that greater hostility is shown to rival democrats than to avowed hostile republicans.

Let us learn a little from the experience of our enemies. At the National Convention of the Republican party which preceded the last presidential election, one hundred delegates went to Chicago with no purpose of joining in the deliberations, or taking counsel with their brother republicans, but with the avowed purpose of nominating Gen. Grant or voting nothing, the competing claims of other candidates were nothing in their eyes; the general interest of the party or the nation were beside the question with them, they went there to vote for Grant, and vote for Grant they did from beginning to end, taking no interest in anything else that came before the convention.

Now what was the result? First of all, Grant was not nominated and it soon became manifest that a majority of delegates went to that convention with a resolve that he never should be. But contemplate the effect of all this upon the political standing of those who were concerned in it. Where now is Grant himself? It is pitiable to notice the universal neglect with which his name is treated in his party's councils. Compare the boom which boomed for him four years ago with his present status; at that time a gathering of delegates went for him from London to Japan and from Japan to California, crowned heads and Hindoo Zemindars and Japanese Mikadors had all been solicited to bloom for him and they bloomed. From California to Louisville and from Louisville to New York and Boston the boom grew louder and louder, and it seemed as if he was to march into the convention as a triumphant conqueror rather than as a candidate soliciting suffrage.

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THE BUSINESS OF CLARKSVILLE.

We propose next week to issue an extra sheet giving an account of our business houses and of all those industrial establishments on the productive outcome of which our commercial activity is based. In order to make this statement the more interesting as well as intelligible, we propose to have it illustrated with cuts representing our public buildings of all sorts and our street architecture generally, including the more prominent of our business houses.

In making inquiries which will furnish the foundation of this statement, we have satisfied ourselves that, in spite of much croaking to the contrary, the business of Clarksville has never been so extensive, has never rested on a firmer basis of capital invested in it and has never been more profitable than it is at this moment. The stock in hand is more abundant and of a higher quality than ever before, sales have been quicker and larger, and have met the demand from a wider and more populous area of territory, and still have been effected with degree of prudence and wisdom which has reduced the drawback arising from bad debts within narrower limits than in former days; in brief, transactions have been larger and more numerous and returns more prompt and certain than ever in former days. We have not made these assertions without taking measure to verify our statements, and since writing the above we have secured interviews with some of the leading bankers of our city. These gentlemen have unexceptionable means of knowing whether our statements are correct or not, and they unanimously confirm our position; they agree in the statement that all departments of business have been greatly enlarged during the past winter and some of them to an enormous extent. They also agree that this increased business has been transacted on a firm and sound basis, and that capital wisely and prudently invested.

Let it not be supposed, however, that we say this in a spirit of aimless boasting; our influence would be evil rather than good if anything we have said should lead men to think that because much has been done nothing remains to be done. The much that has been done in the past raises in itself the demand for much more to be done in the future, for if Clarksville has increased her business and the area over which she extends her sphere, she has also increased in extent and activity. In a nation as progressive as ours there is no standing still, the man or the community who halts in the race will soon fall out of it altogether. If we have opened up wider fields of commercial enterprise, we must extend its range still further; if we have established new forms of industry, we must increase and vary them continuously.

Let us then consider what avenues for the further extension of our business are open to us. Well, for one thing, we have a new railroad enterprise before us and we are sanguine that it will be soon pushed on through a highly productive region to Princeton. Even before it reaches that terminus, it cannot fail to bring much additional produce to our market, especially tobacco, and those from whom we receive it will doubtless add to our trade here by making many and varied purchases of our merchants. But can we stop here? This much will probably gain all for Clarksville that tobacco can do for it; but we must try to work at something else besides the tobacco business. We must vary as well as extend our activities; it is when the new railroad is pushed beyond Princeton to the coal fields of Western Kentucky and beyond the Cumberland, Southward to the inexhaustible iron mines of South Tennessee that it will furnish to Clarksville its greatest opportunity, precisely the same opportunity which was so promptly seized upon at Chattanooga some years ago—the opportunity that has made Birmingham, Manchester and Pittsburgh—the opportunity namely that always goes with the synthesis of coal and iron.

The opportunity we say; not the enterprise and intelligence required to make it productive; that must be of our own selves, or it will avail us nothing. We will not allow ourselves to prosecute the various industries that depend upon the coming together of these two invaluable mineral resources—or well, what then?—why, somebody else will do it for us and we shall be left in the lurch. It was not by bragging of their advantages but by going to work to utilize them that Birmingham and Manchester and Pittsburgh and Chattanooga have grown to be active manufacturing centres, and we can in time achieve the same results by doing likewise.

DEFEAT OF THE MORRISON BILL.

The Morrison Tariff bill has been defeated by a majority of four; the vote on the motion to strike out the enacting clause being Yeas 159, Nays 135. This necessarily remands the whole subject of the tariff to the next Congress which is the proper body to deal with it. The present Congress was not elected with that question prominently before the people, and questions of such magnitude ought to be thoroughly discussed and scrutinized, and the will of the people specially consulted before they are made the subjects of legislation.

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The County Democratic Convention will meet here May 31st.

The following request of the Hon. Andrew J. Caldwell seems a reasonable one and we trust it will meet due consideration:

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, WASHINGTON, May 3, 1884.—Wm. K. McAlister, Jr., Esq.—Dear Sir: I desire to call your attention as Chairman of the Congressional Committee for the Sixth District of Tennessee to the situation, and ask that when the time and place of holding the convention is acted upon by the committee, regard shall be had for the fact that the continuation of the session of Congress for an indefinite time yet would seem to indicate that the convention should not be called till a late date in August or some convenient time in September. I beg leave to say that I am a candidate for re-election for a second term to the position of Representative of the Sixth Congressional district of Tennessee in the Congress of the United States, and desire an opportunity to make the canvass before the people, before the delegates to the convention are selected.

THE CHAIRMAN OF THE COUNTY CONVENTIONS THROUGHOUT THE STATE ARE HEREBY NOTIFIED TO CONVEENE THEIR RESPECTIVE COMMITTEES, AND CALL CONVENTIONS OF THE DEMOCRACY OF THEIR COUNTIES, IRRESPECTIVE OF PAST DIFFERENCES, TO APPOINT DELEGATES TO THE SAID CONVENTION TO BE HELD ON THE 15TH DAY OF JUNE.

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OWING to the continued illness of Mr. R. H. Yancey, the editor of the editorial department of the paper this week, and to him we return our sincere thanks.

THE CROP OF CANDIDATES.

While the fields and meadows are growing verdant with the promise of bounteous crops in autumn, the political field also shows a rich promise of productiveness as to its peculiar crop for the summer and fall—its crop of Presidential candidates. Alas! that so many seedlings of this sort at present luxuriate and vigorous should be destined to wither and blight within a little month or two. The signs of this political spring time are becoming more conspicuous every day; candidates who have long been declaring that they are no candidates and that they will under no circumstances consent, are now slowly relenting, following the example of the lady fair but frail, who "sweating and weeping would consent—consent."

Complacent political leaders are suddenly, of course to their astonishment, finding themselves the subjects of biographical literature of the eulogistic school, while the omissions in works of this class are supplied by biographers of quite another school. Bob Lincoln suddenly remembers that he is the son of Abraham the first, and that hereditary succession is not without a precedent in the persons of the Adams family.

In the Democratic acreage the crops are equally abundant and each has its special cultivators who think that the only possible chance of successful harvest depends upon the exclusive culture of its favorite crop. Indeed, so striking is this feature that many democratic husbandmen treat all but their favorites as weeds to be ruthlessly exterminated—a poor prospect for the general harvest.

To drop the metaphor and be in earnest, this devotion to individual leaders so far from representing an interest to the interests of the party is showing itself as a very ugly feature in the councils of Democracy. The supporters of the several politicians are busier in blocking off competing candidates than in advocating the claims of their own favorites, so that greater hostility is shown to rival democrats than to avowed hostile republicans.

Let us learn a little from the experience of our enemies. At the National Convention of the Republican party which preceded the last presidential election, one hundred delegates went to Chicago with no purpose of joining in the deliberations, or taking counsel with their brother republicans, but with the avowed purpose of nominating Gen. Grant or voting nothing, the competing claims of other candidates were nothing in their eyes; the general interest of the party or the nation were beside the question with them, they went there to vote for Grant, and vote for Grant they did from beginning to end, taking no interest in anything else that came before the convention.

Now what was the result? First of all, Grant was not nominated and it soon became manifest that a majority of delegates went to that convention with a resolve that he never should be. But contemplate the effect of all this upon the political standing of those who were concerned in it. Where now is Grant himself? It is pitiable to notice the universal neglect with which his name is treated in his party's councils. Compare the boom which boomed for him four years ago with his present status; at that time a gathering of delegates went for him from London to Japan and from Japan to California, crowned heads and Hindoo Zemindars and Japanese Mikadors had all been solicited to bloom for him and they bloomed. From California to Louisville and from Louisville to New York and Boston the boom grew louder and louder, and it seemed as if he was to march into the convention as a triumphant conqueror rather than as a candidate soliciting suffrage.

Now mark the contrast. No word is said by any one of Grant, whether they be friend or foe; in their own party his nomination would be looked upon as a calamity fatal to all their hopes, in ours it is not deemed worth while to assail him, he is a dead lion and it would be the part of an ignoble brute to kick him.